

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

SB 2388 - HB 2562

January 27, 2012

SUMMARY OF BILL: Authorizes a judge to order mediation for parties seeking an order of protection against each other. Requires the parties to mutually agree upon a mediator and to equally share the mediator fee. Specifies that the mediator is not required to be Supreme Court Rule 31 qualified; however, the mediator is required to observe the Rule 31's standards of professional conduct. Requires the court to conduct a hearing on the petitions if mediation does not result in an agreement.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- According to the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), it is estimated that an insignificant number of mutual petitions are filed.
- Of that number, the AOC estimates that not all mediated cases will result in an agreement by the parties.
- There will not be a sufficient decrease in court case loads for state or local governments to experience a significant decrease in revenue or expenditures.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

/jdh